

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting of August 22, 2013**

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, August 22, 2013, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Chairman Stein at 1:05 p.m.

**Council Members Present:**

Robert Stein  
Chairman  
James J. Murphy  
Vice Chairman  
Robert Hannon  
(designee for Commissioner Esty)

Philip T. Ashton  
Daniel P. Lynch  
Barbara Currier Bell  
Edward S. Wilensky  
Michael Caron  
(designee for Chairman House)

**Staff Members Present:**

Melanie Bachman  
Acting Executive Director/Staff Attorney  
Christina Walsh  
Siting Analyst Supervisor

Robert Mercier  
Siting Analyst  
Michael Perrone  
Siting Analyst  
David Martin  
Siting Analyst

**Staff Members Absent:**

Fred Cunliffe  
Siting Analyst Supervisor

**Recording Secretary:**

Carriann Mulcahy

**Minutes of August 8, 2013.**

Dr. Bell moved to approve the minutes of August 8, 2013, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

**DOCKET NO. 391 – T-Mobile Northeast LLC, Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction, Maintenance and Operation of a Telecommunications Facility at 232 Shore Road, Old Lyme, Connecticut. Revision to Development & Management Plan.**

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the Revisions to the Development & Management Plan, seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed unanimously.

**DOCKET NO. 409A - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 8 Barnes Road, Canaan (Falls Village), Connecticut. Reopening of this docket pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 4-181a(b) limited to Council consideration of changed conditions, revised tower site location and modified facility. Withdrawal of Motion to Reopen.**

The Council acknowledged AT&T's Withdrawal of their Motion to Reopen.

**DOCKET NO. 422 - North Atlantic Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and management of a telecommunications facility located at 655 Basset Road, Watertown, Connecticut. Request for Extension.**

Mr. Murphy moved to grant a six-month extension of time, until May 31, 2014, to complete construction of the facility, seconded by Mr. Caron. The motion passed unanimously.

**Chairman Stein is recused from the following matter. Vice Chairman Murphy presided over the discussion on the matter.**

**DOCKET NO. 435 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Stamford Reliability Cable Project, which consists of construction, maintenance, and operation of a new 115-kV underground transmission circuit extending approximately 1.5 miles between Glenbrook and South End Substations, Stamford, Connecticut and related substation improvements. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.**

The Council reviewed the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order. Vice Chairman Murphy directed staff to make changes to be reviewed at a future meeting.

**Chairman Stein resumed the Chair position.**

**DOCKET NO. 437 – New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 111 Second Hill Road, Bridgewater, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr.

Hannon, Mr. Caron, and Mr. Ashton in favor of issuing a Certificate for the proposed facility, with Chairman Stein abstaining.

Mr. Lynch stated that he read the transcript of the proceeding.

Chairman Stein directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

**DOCKET NO. 438 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites: 596 Pendleton Hill Road or 53 Gallup Road, Voluntown, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.**

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Hannon, and Mr. Ashton in favor of issuing a Certificate for the proposed facility located at 53 Gallup Road (site 2), Voluntown, Connecticut; Mr. Murphy and Chairman Stein in favor of issuing a Certificate for the proposed facility located at 596 Pendleton Hill Road (site 1), Voluntown, Connecticut; and with Mr. Caron abstaining.

Mr. Hannon and Mr. Wilensky stated that they read the transcript of the proceeding.

Chairman Stein directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order, for 53 Gallup Road (site 2) to be reviewed at the next meeting.

**PETITION NO. 1056 - GRE 314 East Lyme, LLC declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction and operation of a 5.0 MW Solar Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Generating Project located on Grassy Hill Road and Walnut Hill Road, East Lyme, Connecticut. Development & Management Plan.**

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the site clearing portion of the Development & Management Plan with the condition that an environmental inspector survey the barn and abandoned house prior to demolition for the presence of bat colonies. If any bat colonies are present, GRE shall consult with DEEP for guidance, seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed unanimously.

**PETITION NO. 1068 – BE 2012 A LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the location and construction of a Customer-Side 400 kW Fuel Cell to be located at AT&T, 26 Washington Street, New London, Connecticut. Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Murphy moved to set December 21, 2013, as the date by which the Council shall make its decision on this petition, seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

**PETITION NO. 1072 – Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC Petition for a Declaratory Ruling Regarding the Jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council over the construction or replacement of natural gas pipeline facilities in the towns of Danbury, Cromwell/Rocky Hill, Lebanon/Franklin/Norwich and Montville, Connecticut; modifications to compressor stations in the towns of Oxford, Cromwell and Chaplin Connecticut; modifications to metering stations in the towns of Berlin, Danbury, Farmington, Glastonbury, Guilford, Middletown, Montville, North Haven, Norwich, Plainville, Pomfret, Putnam, Southbury, Vernon and Windham, Connecticut; and for recommendations regarding siting, environmental mitigation measures, and construction procedures to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Set Date for Decision.**

Mr. Ashton moved to set December 28, 2013, as the date by which the Council shall make its decision on this petition, seconded by Mr. Caron. The motion passed unanimously.

**PETITION NO. 1073 - The United Illuminating Company petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for all transmission remediation activities pursuant to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) facility ratings recommendation to industry. Decision.**

Mr. Ashton moved to approve this petition with the following conditions:

- UI shall file with the Council a sub-petition for each site-specific remediation activity for Council staff review that includes the following information:
  1. The exact location of the remediation activity;
  2. Description of the remediation activity, including, but not limited to site drawings and plans depicting current field conditions, corrected field conditions and access routes to areas of remediation activities;
  3. An impact statement relating to the potential environmental effects of construction as follows, where applicable:
    1. Wetlands and watercourses
    2. Flood zones
    3. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Database areas
    4. Clearing of trees and/or vegetation
  4. A mitigation plan for any identified environmental impact, including, but not limited to best management practices, erosion and sediment controls, re-vegetation and site stabilization.
- UI shall provide notice to the town(s) and abutting property owners of the proposed remediation activity with a copy of the site-specific sub-petition indicating that comments or concerns should be submitted to the Council within 30 days of the date that the sub-petition is sent to the town(s) and abutting property owners. Proof of such notice shall be provided to the Council at the time the site-specific sub-petition is filed with the Council. If UI identifies field conditions that require immediate attention to restore the rating of a transmission line that is out of compliance and UI submits to the Council site-specific sub-petition proof of notice to the town and abutting property owners, and submits

written permission to proceed with the remediation activity from the town, the 30-day comment period may be waived

The motion was seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

**PETITION NO. 1074 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no amended Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the collocation of a telecommunications facility on an approved tower site located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve this petition with the condition that AT&T consider shared use of a backup generator, seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

**TS-VER-152-130802 – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless request for an order to approve the shared used of an existing telecommunications facility located at 15 Miner Lane, Waterford, Connecticut. Decision.**

Mr. Ashton moved to approve this tower sharing request, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Revision to Tower Share Application Guide**

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the revisions to the Tower Share Application Guide, as amended, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Administrative Matters.**

**The following calendar events were discussed.**

- Thursday, September 5, 2013, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** energy/telecommunications meeting, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.
- Tuesday, September 10, 2013, Docket No. 439 (MCM/AT&T) **2:30 p.m.** Field Review and **3:30 p.m.** Public Hearing in New London.
- Thursday, September 19, 2013, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** energy/telecommunications meeting, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut

#### **Adjournment.**

Mr. Ashton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Caron. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stein adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Robert Stein**  
**Chairman**

RS/cm